



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## THE LAMENT OF CERES.

A Free Translation of the Four concluding Stanzas of  
Schiller's "KLAGE DER CERES."

FOR THE DUBLIN PENNY JOURNAL.

Now the autumn dies, and winter's blast  
From the north is chillily returning :  
Leaf and flower their brilliant hues have cast,  
And in nakedness the trees are mourning ;  
Therefore from Vertumnus' lavish horn  
Slowly, silently, the gift I take,  
Overcharged with life,—the golden corn,—  
As mine offering to the Stygian lake.  
Into earth I sink the seed with sadness,  
And it lies upon my daughter's heart ;  
Thus a symbol of my grief and gladness,  
Of my love and anguish I impart.

When the handmaid hours, in circling duty,  
Once again lead round the bowery spring,  
Then upbouncing life and newborn beauty,  
Unto all that died the sun shall bring,  
Lo ! the germ that lay to eyes of mortals  
Longwhile coiffined by the earth's cold bosom,  
Blushes as it bursts the clayey portals,  
With the dyes of heaven on its blossom !  
As the stem in triumph skyward towers,  
Bashfully the fibres shun the light :  
So, to rear my tender ones, the Powers  
Both of heaven and earth in love unite !

Halfway in the realm where life rejoices,  
Halfway in the nightworld of the tomb,  
These to me are blessed herald-voices  
Wafted earthward from the Stygian gloom.  
Yea, though dungeoned in the hell of hells,  
Would I, from the black abysm infernal,  
Hear the silver peal whose music swells  
Now from these my blossoms young and vernal,  
Singing that where old in rayless blindness  
Gloomily the mourner-phantoms move,  
Even *there* are bosoms filled with kindness,  
Even *there* are hearts alive with love !

O, my flowers ! that round the mead so sunny,  
Odour-loaded, freshly bloom and blow,  
Here I bless you ! May ambrosial honey  
Ever down your chalice-petals flow !  
Flowers ! I'll steep you in celestial light,  
Blent with colors from the rainbow borrowed,  
All your bells shall glisten with the bright  
Hues that play around Aurora's forehead !  
So, whene'er the days of springtime roll,  
When the autumn pours her yellow treasures,  
May each bleeding heart and loving soul  
Read in you my mingled pains and pleasures !

CLARENCE.

## ANCIENT IRISH LITERATURE.

## CORMAC'S GLOSSARY.

This curious remnant of ancient Irish Literature has been so often referred to in our preceding numbers, that our readers must necessarily feel some curiosity to be acquainted with its contents, and with the evidences on which its claims to authenticity rest. Before we proceed to examine the contents of the work itself, it will be found necessary to show that the arguments of Ledwich, who made great exertions to prove that this Glossary was a forgery, are as baseless as he himself was unqualified to examine its contents.

That mighty reformer of Irish History, speaking of this Glossary, has the following words :

"As to Cormac's Glossary, Lynch says that it was the work of Cairbre Liffechair, A.D. 279 ; Colgan, as good authority, ascribes it to Cormac Ulfada, A.D. 257. O'Connor, who published *Ogygia Vindicated*, 1775, and was well acquainted with Irish literature, had never seen this Glossary, and fears it was lost to the public. However, it is said to have been *printed* in the last century, by O'Clery, one of the Four Masters. Lynch and Colgan are better informed than later antiquaries, and neither

give the composition to Cormac of Cashel, but to others who lived six hundred years before Cormac. But even Lynch and Colgan are *romancing*, when they suppose letters known or common in the third century.

"Grant that Cormac M'Cuilenan was author of a Glossary in the tenth century, was not this to serve as an interpreter to the precedent Irish language, grown obsolete in his time ? This is the common idea of the use of a glossary, and it evinces the fluctuation and corruption of the language. It is now nine hundred years since Cormac writ this pretended glossary ; has the Irish tongue suffered no alteration in such a lapse of ages ? It must have astonishingly changed, when we are assured by the author of an Irish Grammar, that the Irish language of four hundred years back, is totally different from the present in *sense* and *orthography*. Let the reader mark the words *sense* and *orthography*, and draw his conclusion as to the authenticity of this impudent and blundering forgery. I should not have detained the reader so long, were not Cormac's Glossary and Psalter constantly appealed to as authentic literary monuments."

In this extract, Ledwich, while he shows his disgust to every thing Irish, makes a curious display of his own *ignorance*, and I might almost say, *stupidity*.

First, he states that Lynch ascribes this work, called "*Cormac's Glossary*," to Cairbre Liffechair. Here he shows either ignorance or dishonesty, and as the former is more creditable to his memory, I shall attribute it to his ignorance ; for Lynch, in the page of *Cambrensis Eversus* to which he refers, speaks not of "*Cormac's Glossary*," but of "*Cormac's Instructions* to his son Cairbre Liffechair."

I refer the reader to No. 27, pp. 213, 214, of this Journal, where I have collected all the historic evidences concerning Cormac Ulfada, and given specimens of his Instructions to his son Cairbré ; and it will be seen that that tract is totally different from this Glossary ; and therefore, he, who was not capable of distinguishing the one from the other, was but ill qualified to pass an opinion upon the authenticity or antiquity of either.

Colgan refers to the same Tract, not to Cormac's Glossary.

Ledwich says, "*O'Connor had never seen this Glossary.*"

Here the antiquary confounds Cormac's Glossary with the *Psalter of Cashel*.

Charles O'Connor, in page 161 of *Ogygia Vindicated*, to which this historic charlatan refers, writes the following note :—

"This *PSALTER OF CASHEL* was begun by Cormac M'Cuilenan, King and Archbishop of Munster, about the year 900, and was continued by other collectors after his death. Duaid M'Firbis had the perusal of it, and very probably it was the copy which his friend, *Sir James Ware*, possessed. We are afraid that this *valuable collection* is now lost to the public."

Not a word about Cormac's Glossary ; and still from this very passage Ledwich boldly infers—

"O'Connor, who published *Ogygia Vindicated*, in 1775, had never seen this Glossary."!! (*O tempora !*)

O'Connor never hinted at his not having seen this Glossary—far from it. In giving the derivation of *Erin*, he says, that the conjecture of the King of Munster was ingenious, when he derived it from *Iber*, western, and *Nayon*, an island.

A historian is not to be condemned if he quote authorities faithfully, and draw even subtle conclusions. But when he falsifies his authorities, and then draws inferences unfavourable to the people of whom he writes, he should be considered as influenced by malevolent feelings, not as a historian searching after truth.

"However, it is stated to have been printed in the last century, by O'Clery, one of the Four Masters."

A Glossary was printed and published by O'Clery, at Louvain, A.D. 1643, but this was O'Clery's own compilation from ancient glossaries, as stated in his prefixed preface, not Cormac's Glossary.

The remainder of Ledwich's grumbling against this Glossary, amounts to this :—

This Glossary is said to have been written in the tenth century, to explain Irish words grown obsolete in that age ; we are informed by the author of an Irish

